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July 27, 2013

WEB SITE SET UP FOR REPORTING OF FLOOD DAMAGE

NEWTON, NC— As it continues to assess and respond to damage resulting from flooding in Catawba County on July 27, 2013, Catawba County Emergency Services has set up a web page where the public may report damage from the flooding.

The public may report damage at <http://bit.ly/ccflood> or call 828-466-7208.

Catawba County has received in excess of four inches of rain in a four to five hour time period, with locally heavier rains in some parts of the area.

Catawba County Board of Commissioners Chair Katherine W. Barnes declared a State of Emergency for Catawba County at 11:10 a.m. on Saturday, July 27, 2013, in response to serious flooding in several areas of the county.

Catawba County Emergency Management officials have received some reports of people driving around barricades set up in front of flooded or damaged roads. Drivers are urged not to travel unless it is absolutely necessary and no one should attempt to drive beyond a barricade set up on any road.

More than 50 roadways and bridges are washed out or impassible. Several neighborhoods have been inaccessible, with persons sheltering in place.

The North Carolina Department of Transportation has advised that the following roads will be closed for a minimum of three months due to damage under the roadway:

- 600 block of McLin Creek Rd in Conover
- Huffman Farm Rd in the Mountain View area of Hickory
- Mull Rd in Vale in southwest Catawba County
- Old Farm Rd in the Mountain View area of Hickory
- Grace Church Rd in the Propst area of southwest Catawba County
- Gracie Lane in the Propst area of southwest Catawba County

One shelter is open for the public at the Newton Recreation Center at 23 South Brady Avenue in Newton, NC. The shelter will accept pets. There are currently no evacuees registered at the shelter, however the shelter will remain open in anticipation of additional rainfall and flooding in the Lookout Shoals area.

Catawba County Emergency Management is closely monitoring the situation at Lookout Shoals Lake, which frequently impacted by heavy rains and high water. The lake is currently at 104 feet and rising with projections from Duke Energy that it will reach 104.5 feet.



The Catawba Emergency Operations Center was partially activated on the morning of July 27 to manage response to the event.

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